ANNUAL REPORTS

OF THE

TOWN OFFICERS

OF THE

Town of Douglas,

FOR YEAR ENDING

MARCH 1, 1882.

PRESS OF
CHARLES J. BATCHELLER,
EAST DOUGLAS, MASS.
1882.

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REPORT OF THE SELECTMEN.

The Selectmen of the Town of Douglas respectfully submit the following report of the financial affairs of the Town, for the year ending March 1, 1882.

PAID TOWN OFFICERS AS FOLLOWS:

TOWN CLERK.

T. H. Meek,	$68 47

ASSESSORS.

E. H. Morse,	$91 25
Brigham Morse,	84 00
	$175 25

SELECTMEN AND OVERSEERS OF POOR.

Caleb Hill, 1880,	$15 00
L. C. Keith, 1880,	15 00
W. D. Jones, 1880,	14 00
N. S. Caswell, 1880,	2 00
W. D. Jones, 1881,	40 00
	$86 00

SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS.

A. F. Brown, in part,	$100 00

CONSTABLES.

Alvin H. Brown,	$9 70

SEALING WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

M. M. Luther, 1880,	$7 00

AUDITOR.

John C. Morrill, 1880,	$9 00

SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

E. C. Esten, for Superintending schools, 1880,	$11 33
W. D. Jones, " " 1880,	11 33
	$22 66

TAX COLLECTOR.

N. W. Preston,	$95 00

SEXTON.

Edward Balcome,	$44 00

MILITARY AID.

[Chapt. 301.]

Arena E. Chapman,	$48 00
Elizabeth Hudson,	44 00
George A. Gleason,	36 00
Hiram Ward,	72 00
Lucina P. Sibley,	48 00
George F. Marcy,	72 00
George Snow,	36 00
Lemuel C. Belding,	40 00
Edwin Hill,	4 00
Urana Thompson,	4 00
Wellington Balcom,	18 00
	$422 00

MILITARY AID.

[Chapt. 252.]

T. H. Barton,	$88 00
Charles F. Balcome,	58 00
Sylvester Chase,	42 00
C. Emmons,	48 00
G. L. Jillson,	48 00
Henry C. Lamson,	52 00
Dorris B. Young,	48 00
Charles C. Walls,	64 00
Thomas H. Snow,	32 00
	$480 00

FIRE DEPARTMENT.

V. M. Aldrich, supplies,	$12 95
Felix Peloquin, foundation and step stones for Engine House,	100 00
Ira Southwick, for building Engine House,	1,105 00
N. W. Preston, insurance, five years from July 2, '81	16 50
A. J. Thayer, rent,	6 97
Horace Batcheller, building culvert and grading at Engine House,	70 00
A. F. Jones, fixtures for engine,	18 29
A. F. Jones, services as building Committee,	15 00
	$1,344 71

HIGHWAYS AND BRIDGES.

Dist. No. 1.	George E. Fairfield,			$28 50
" 2.	Alfred Hodgkins, by Orrin Chase,			47 25
" 3.	Potter M. Bates,			29 14
" 4.	Silas Dudley,			30 40
" 5.	Nelson Potter, repairing bridge near his house,	56 24		
	Horace Batcheller, labor on Manchaug road,	843 60		
	Suel Logee, plank for bridge near Jonas Oakes,	27 37		
	S. W. Potter, fixing railing at O. Morse, Mill place,	9 00—		936 21

Dist. No. 6.	J. M. Parker,				$41 61
" 7.	Nelson G. Dudley,				43 11
" 8.	William J. Wellman,				31 44
" 9.	A. E. Chase,				31 80
" 10.	James Peters, including bridge,				84 74
" 11.	Willard Whipple,		83 11		
	Selectmen, on Main street,		386 82—		469 93
" 12.	Elijah B. Paine,				230 19
" 13.	B. Burlingame, $13.50 on 1880,				41 43
" 14.	G. L. Jillson,				7 50
" 15.	Edward Balcome,				35 95
" 16.	John Caswell,		22 70		
	Jesse Chase,		14 37—		37 07
" 17.	N. S. Caswell,				53 51
" 18.	Suel Logee,				168 35
" 19.	Pliny Richardson,				48 47
" 20.	Moses B. Southwick,		20 00		
	Jesse Chase, labor on bridge and lumber,		10 11—		30 11
" 21.	O. W. Adams,				41 59
" 22.	William K. Oakes,				18 90
" 23.	Henry A. Walker,				51 52
" 24.	David A. E. Wallis,				21 18
" 25.	Thomas Kelley,				27 90
" 26.	Harvey Wakefield,				25 11
" 27.	A. F. Jillson,				63 26
" 28.	Alvin H. Brown, including bridge,				112 79
" 29.	Collins Chase,				45 02
Horace Batcheller, labor in sundry districts,					113 18
V. M. Aldrich, for 4 shovels, at $1.35,			5 40		
" "	2 lbs. powder,		45		
" "	2½ yds. fuse, at 5 cts.,		13		
" "	73 lbs. nails, at 4 cts.,		2 92		
" "	72 " " 4½ c., for sundry roads and bridges,		3 24—		12 14
					$2,959 30

SCHOOL PURPOSES.

High School,			$1,021 82
Dist. No. 1.			325 89
" 2.			253 53
" 3.			615 98
" 4.			255 21
" 5.			12 00

Dist. No. 7.	- - -	$242 53
" 8.	- -	257 90
" 9.	- - -	645 89
" 10.	- -	621 47
A. F. Brown, for erasers,	- -	6 15
		$3,236 55

MAKING SNOW ROADS.

Dist. No. 1.	George E. Fairfield,	-		$22 01
" 2.	Orrin Chase,	-		13 90
" 3.	Potter M. Bates,	-		8 31
" 4.	Silas Dudley,	-		6 56
" 5.	Charles W. Potter,	-		5 16
" 6.	Lovel Parker, 1880,	-		3 75
" 7.	N. G. Dudley,	-		22 64
" 8.	W. J. Wellman,	-		27 25
" 9.	John Robbins, 1880,		6 25	
	Alverton Chase,		16 91—	23 16
" 10.	James Peters,	-		21 67
" 13.	B. M. Burlingame, 1880,	-		7 56
" 14.	Silas Dudley,	-	15 69	
	George D. Adams,		19 24—	34 93
" 15.	Edward Balcome,	-		20 72
" 16.	John Caswell,	-		10 35
" 17.	N. S. Caswell,	-		3 06
" 18.	John M. Rawson,	-	4 88	
	Suel Logee,	-	16 65—	21 53
" 19.	Pliny Richardson,	-		13 82
" 20.	Benjamin Whiting, 1880,	-	11 88	
	Moses B. Southwick,		23 17—	35 05
" 21.	O. W. Adams,	-		11 36
" 22.	Willard Whipple,	-		14 02
" 23.	Henry Walker,	-		28 55
" 24.	David A. E. Wallis,	-		15 78
" 25.	Thomas Kelley,	-		14 10
" 26.	Harvey Wakefield, 1880,	-		2 05
" 27.	Silas Dudley,	-	4 49	
	N. F. Amidon,	-	3 41—	7 90
" 29.	Collins Chase,	-	20 62	
	Jesse Chase,	-	9 86—	30 48
				$425 67

FIXTURES FOR TOWN OFFICERS' ROOM.

Joseph Bowen, for table,			$19 58
V. M. Aldrich, difference in stoves,	5 00		
" " two pieces stove pipe,	60		
" " elbow, 25 c, two lamps, at .65,	1 55		
" " oil can, 65 cts., 1 gal. oil, 25 c.,	90		
" " pair shears,	65—		8 70
T. T. Potter & Son, three office chairs,	21 00		
" " " 4 round-top chairs, 5.60,			
1 ten-foot settee, 5.15,	10 75—		31 75
			$60 03

PUBLIC LIBRARY.

D. T. Reynolds, Treasurer, (Dog fund,)			$180 66
V. M. Aldrich, building over stove,	3 00		
" " 9 lbs. pipe, 2.25, 2 elbows, 50 c,			
1 collar, 10 cts.,	2 85		
" " 8 lbs. zinc at 15 cts.,	1 20—		7 05
			$187 71

MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES.

Asa Thayer, room rent for town officers and town library,	$35 10		
Stationery for Treasurer,	3 00—	$38	10
E. C. Esten, for text books for poor children,		1	26
John Hilton, for money overpaid for use of ledge in 1880, as per vote of town,		35	00
Winchendon Road Scraper Co., for 3 scrapers,		100	00
A. F. Brown, surveying and making deed of land from O. Jenney, to the town,		3	00
John J. Greene, painting and varnishing hearse,		12	00
John M. Putnam, for use of carryall to Worcester after Mrs. Tiff,		1	80
V. M. Aldrich, starting water,		1	00
A. J. Thayer, wood for selectmens' room,			75
W. D. Jones, time and expenses in Pike case,		10	00
O. Jenney, for land for use on highways,		76	88
J. A. Richardson, for mowing cemetery,		5	00

Suel Logee, repairing hearse,	$8 87
W. H. Loring, time and expense in Pike case,	9 00
Hopkins & Briggs, advance fee in Pike case,	20 00
W. H. Loring, trip to Boston to examine records in Andrews' Case,	5 60
Douglas Axe M'f'g Co., 1878, 75 cts., '79, $2.47, '80, $5.30, '81, $1.30,	9 82
A. F. Brown, for school books,	143 34
W. H. Loring, man and team to Holliston, after Watkins,	5 00
W. H. Loring and team to Holliston, in regard to Polly Watkins,	5 00
W. H. Loring, man and team to Worcester twice after Mrs. Tiff,	10 00
W. H. Loring, expense to Danielsonville,	4 95
Southwick & Morton, 1880, 2 lamp chimneys,	20
L. S. Keith, putting pane of glass in hearse,	1 00
A. F. Jones, 2 barrels coal,	2 50
Ira Wallis, 4 spades to use on highways,	3 80
Suel Logee, repairing town scraper,	2 00
	$515 87

PAUPERS AWAY FROM ALMSHOUSE.

Peter Hughes, and family,	$243 91
George Packard and wife,	38 30
Evelina Sprague,	78 00
Julius Gould,	218 00
C. H. Balcome,	185 56
A. W. Chapman,	48 00
Ira Arnold,	2 50
Annie Bishop,	4 00
Joseph E. Morse,	5 00
Michael Morgan,	3 00
Napoleon Casket,	6 12
Gardner Nickerson,	24 25
Mrs. Rosanna Conley,	13 00
Daniel Vandall,	10 00
Mrs. William King,	14 89
Maurice Dupree,	66 07
Hiram Johnson,	51 43
Mrs. William Reed,	43 38
Mrs. Mary Greene,	166 41
Mrs. Tiff, 1880,	120 59

Media Jarvis, - -	$141 91
Polly Watkins, Town of Holliston, 1880, -	52 00
Willard Taft, " " " -	52 00
Louis Lovely, - -	10 00
E. F. Andrews, Danvers Lunatic Hospital, -	54 79
George E. Dunn, Town of Milford, 1880,	63 00
Foster Skiff, - -	5 00
Aid to tramps, - - -	3 00
	$1,724 11

PRINTING.

Chas. J. Batcheller, - -	$99 10

ALMSHOUSE EXPENSES.

George D. Adams, Superintendent's salary,	$333 33
Levi White, medical attendance, - -	11 50
V. M. Aldrich, 4 lbs. grass seed, -	40
Suel Logee, repairing wagons, - -	21 02
	$366 25

STATE PAUPERS.

Mitchel Martell, transporting corpse, and opening and closing grave, - -	$5 50
Helen Handenberger, coffin, - -	10 00
Peter Butchrr, coffin, - -	10 00
Charles Gravlin, - -	69 04
	$94 54

RECAPITULATION.

Paid Town officers, - -	$617 08
Military Aid, [Chap. 301,] -	422 00
Military Aid, [Chap. 252,] - -	480 00
Fire Department, - -	1,344 71
Highways and Bridges, - -	2,959 30
High School, - -	1,021 82
District Schools, - - -	3,236 55

Making Snow Roads,	$425 67
Fixtures for Town officers' room,	60 03
Public Library,	187 71
Miscellaneous Expenses,	515 87
Paupers away from Almshouse,	1,724 11
Printing,	99 10
Almshouse Expenses,	366 25
State Paupers,	94 54
	$13,554 74

In submitting the foregoing report, we wish to say that so far as we have had control of the town's money, we have endeavored to expend it economically, and for the best interests of the town. We may have failed in our intentions; if so, we ask the indulgence of the citizens, whom we have endeavored to serve to the best of our ability.

W. H. LORING, }
W. D. JONES, } Selectmen of
SUEL LOGEE, } Douglas.

JOHN C. MORRILL, Auditor.

REPORT OF THE TREASURER.

ASA THAYER, TREASURER, IN ACCOUNT WITH THE TOWN OF DOUGLAS.

1881.			Dr.
Mar.	7.	Cash in Treasury, - -	$737 12
		Received of John Hilton, -	7 45
"	19.	" W. D. Jones, for nails and old boards,	2 00
Apr.	29.	Borrowed of Whitinsville Bank.	1,500 00
May	28.	" Suel Logee,	2,000 00
"	30.	Received Corporation tax.	147 39
		" State Treasurer, for State Paupers,	44 42
		Received of State Treasurer for temporary support, -	8 00
June	29.	Borrowed of Whitinsville Bank,	4,000 00
July	25.	" A. J. Thayer,	1,500 00
Dec.	6.	Received of State Treasurer, Corporation tax,	29 33
		Received of State Treasurer, National Bank tax,	231 53
		Received of State Treasurer, State aid,	150 00
		" " " relief of indigent soldiers and sailors,	369 00
		Received of State Treasurer, support of State Paupers,	5 50
1882.			
Jan'y	2.	Received of County Treas'r, Dog fund,	180 66
"	9.	" E. B. Knapp, for use of lock-up,	1 50
"	27.	Received of State Treasurer, income of Mass. school fund,	191 90

Feb.	18.	Received of A. J. Thayer, use of lock-up,	$2 50
"	21.	" N. W. Preston, Assessors' order of abatement,	133 16
		Received of N. W. Preston, int. on taxes,	28
"	22.	" " " on tax acct.,	13,895 67
"	27.	Borrowed of Suel Logee,	500 00
		Received of State Treasurer, corporation tax,	95 58
			$25,732 99

ASA THAYER, TREASURER.

1881.			Cr.
Mar.	17.	Paid interest on note to William Chase,	$100 00
		" note and int. to Lura A. Wallis,	196 77
		" interest on note to Whitinsville Bank,	35 06
Apr.	29.	" note to Henry D. Wallis,	262 18
June	29.	" int. on note to Whitinsville Bank,	56 00
Aug.	2.	" on note to Salem Savings Bank,	2,000 00
		" int. on note to Salem Savings Bank,	300 00
Oct.	19.	" note to Whitinsville Bank,	1,500 00
"	20.	" for recording deed,	65
"	28.	" note to A. J. Thayer,	1,515 66
Nov.	2.	" note to Whitinsville Bank,	4,000 00
"	7.	" N. W. Preston, for State tax,	795 00
		" " County Tax,	643 00
		interest on note to Lovina S. Jones,	180 00
		" " Retus Walling,	65 70
		" " to Salem Savings Bank,	240 00
		" N. W. Preston, orders of abatement,	133 16
		" " " tax on real estate belonging to Town,	13
Feb.	25.	" 300 Selectmens' orders,	13,554 74
Sept.	21.	" taken from the safe by burglars,	30 00
1882.			
March	1.	By cash in Treasury,	124 94
			$25,732 99

All of which is respectfully submitted,

ASA THAYER, Treasurer of Douglas.

LIABILITIES AND ASSETS.

LIABILITIES OF THE TOWN.

Note to Salem Savings Bank,	$8,000 00
Retus Walling,	1,095 00
Chloe Dudley,	305 00
Lovina S. Jones,	3,000 00
Sarah Walker,	511 78
Mary Walker,	300 00
William Chase,	2,000 00
Suel Logee,	2,000 00
" "	500 00
Interest on the above notes, about	320 00
	$18,031 78
Assets of the Town,	5,781 83
	$12,249 95

ASSETS OF THE TOWN.

Due from J. W. Putnam, Executor, Sutton,	$53 00
" Town of Milford,	4 84
" State for Military aid,	240 00
" State for State aid,	252 00
" Newburyport for support of J. W. C. Pike,	193 72
" Town of Palmer, for aid to James Burpee,	6 50
Almshouse establishment,	3,000 00
Personal Property at Almshouse,	1,883 30
Cash in hands of Superintendent,	13 53
Due from Caleb Hill, cash received of Mary Green, a pauper,	10 00
Cash in hands of Treasurer,	124 94
	$5,781 83

CASH IN TREASURY FOR REPAIRS IN THE SEVERAL SCHOOL DISTRICTS.

Dist. No. 2.	- - -	$4 07
" 3.	- -	23 33
" 5.	. - -	1 29
" 7.	- -	60

[The above sums were taken from the safe Sept. 21, by burglars.]

District No. 9,	- - -	$79 54

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

OVERSEERS OF THE POOR.

FOR YEAR ENDING MARCH 1, 1882.

GEORGE D. ADAMS, Superintendent.

DR.

To Personal Property at Almshouse, March 1, 1881,	$1,878 08
Cash in hands of Superintendent, March 1, 1881,	19 30
Due from I. T. Johnson, March 1, 1881,	6 75
Order to Suel Logee, for repairing wagons,	21 02
V. M. Aldrich, 4 lbs. grass seed,	40
Levi White, medical attendance,	11 50
Superintendent's salary,	333 33
Interest on Almshouse Real Estate,	180 00
	$2,450 38

CR.

By Personal Property at Almshouse, Mar. 1, 1882,	$1,883 30
Cash in hands of Superintendent,	13 53
	$1,896 83

Cost of supporting paupers at Almshouse, for the year ending Mar. 1, 1882, including interest of $180. on real estate,	$553 55
Exclusive of interest on real estate,	373 55

Whole number of weeks board of poor at Almshouse, including 16 tramps,	362
Average cost per week exclusive of interest,	$1 03
" " " including interest,	1 53

PAUPERS OUT OF ALMSHOUSE.

Assistance rendered during the year ending Mar. 1,'82 $1,724 11

All of which is respectfully submitted,

W. H. LORING, }
W. D. JONES, } Overseers of the Poor.
SUEL LOGEE, }

J. C. MORRILL, Auditor.

REPORT

OF

A. F. JONES, AGENT

FOR THE DEVISE OF MOSES WALLIS,

TO THE

TOWN OF DOUGLAS,

FOR THE

Year ending March 1, 1882.

The Agent charges himself with notes and cash received of former Agent as follows:

1881.			
Mar. 1.	Notes, - -		$11,718 00
	Accrued interest on said notes,		494 57
	Cash in hands of Agent,		900 20
" 2.	Interest on David Wallis note,		12 00
" 2.	" Phebe Keith "		6 00
" 14.	" R. P. Johnson "		24 00
Apr. 22.	" Allen Buxton "		12 00
" 22.	" Phebe Young, "		30 00
" 30.	" John M. Putnam, by Orison Hewett,		7 50
May 6.	" J. & M. Rivers note,		24 00
" 10.	" Margaret Stearns "		18 00

May	17.	Interest on Isaac Desotelle note,	$15 00
June	15.	" Chandler Titus "	8 10
"	18.	" Mary Briggs "	12 00
"	21.	" Wm. M. Putnam "	25 50
"	22.	" Philamin Mercier "	30 00
"	29.	" Joseph M. Richardson note, and principal in full,	52 90
July	13.	" Amable Signett note,	24 00
"	16.	Principal on Mary E. Arnold note,	50 00
Aug.	17.	Interest on Russell M. Peters note,	10 00
Sept.	3.	" Michael Roberts "	30 00
"	8.	" Thomas Wixtead note, by James Wixtead,	12 00
"	8.	" O. N. Thurber, "	18 00
"	12.	" Russel M. Peters "	5 00
Oct.	8.	" Amos A. Humes "	21 00
"	17.	" Potter M. Bates "	9 00
"	27.	" Joel Glover "	12 00
Nov.	15.	" Chandler Titus "	23 80
"	25.	" T. H. Barton "	12 00
1882.			
Jan'y	16.	" Dorris B. Young, 2 notes,	24 00
"	16.	" Albert Whipple note,	18 60
"	20.	" Jonas Batcheller "	18 00
"	20.	" Ira T. Robbins "	9 00
"	20.	" Jas. McCormick, "	21 00
Feb.	4.	" Chas. F. Rawson "	12 00
"	15.	Principal on Mary E. Arnold "	50 00
"	15.	Interest on Mary E. Arnold "	5 50
"	25.	" A. F. Brown "	30 00
"	25.	" Alvin H. Brown "	30 00
"	25.	" Patrick Dermody "	18 00
"	26.	" Mary E. Arnold "	2 00
"	26.	" Louisa Jarvis "	6 00
			$13,860 67

A. F. JONES, AGT. MOSES WALLIS DEVISE.

1881. CR.

The Agent has loaned and paid out as follows :

Mar.	3.	C. J. Batcheller, printing,	$ 75
"	5.	S. H. Starr, loaned,	100 00
"	5.	Moses B. Southwick, appraiser,	1 50

Mar.	5.	Wellington Young appraiser,	$1 50
"	5.	Recording mortgage,	1 18
"	5.	N. W. Preston, for care of Devise from March 1, to March 22,	3 00
Apr.	1.	Joseph Bowen, for trunk for keeping Devise papers,	2 25
June	28.	Discharging mortgage,	25
July	22.	Mary J. Willis, loaned,	500 00
"	22.	Recording deed,	1 00
Oct.	29.	Tax,	163 82
Nov.	4.	Charles H. Hilton, loaned,	200 00
"	4.	J. C. Morrill, appraiser,	3 00
"	4.	Burton Goddard, "	1 00
"	4.	D. T. Reynolds, "	2 00
1882.			
Mar.	1.	Agent of Devise for services,	60 00
			$1,041 25

NOTES DUE THE TOWN MARCH 1 1881.

Date of Note.	Name.	Accrued Int.	Prin.
Dec. 2, 1854.	Joel Glover,	$ 2 97	$200 00
May 8, 1857.	I. T. Robbins,	16 05	150 00
Nov. 23, 1859.	A. F. Brown,	8 08	500 00
Mar. 2, 1861.	David Wallis,	11 94	200 00
Aug. 21, 1872.	Patrick Dermody,	9 45	300 00
Jan. 2, 1865.	Dorris B. Young,	6 22	150 00
Dec. 4, 1866.	Thomas Wixtead,	23 00	200 00
Oct. 16, 1867.	Potter M. Bates,	3 35	150 00
Mar. 1, 1867.	John M. Putnam,	6 37	125 00
May 1, 1867.	Albert Whipple,	15 50	310 00
" 21, 1868.	Charles F. Rawson,	9 30	200 00
June 17, 1869.	Chandler Titus,	7 52	340 00
Feb. 20, 1869.	S. P. Rawson,	30 83	500 00
Apr. 24, 1869.	O. N. Thurber,	15 30	300 00
" 21, 1870.	James Wixtead,	10 30	200 00
Mar. 2, 1870.	Phebe Keith,	5 97	100 00
" 26, 1870.	Rufus P. Johnson,	22 27	400 00
Apr. 1, 1871.	Margaret Stearns,	16 50	300 00
May 8, 1872.	William M. Putnam.	20 69	425 00
June 21, 1873.	D. B. Youug,	10 36	250 00
May 13, 1874.	T. H. Barton,	9 56	200 00
Oct. 19, 1874.	Chandler Titus,	6 01	135 00

Oct. 24, 1874.	Lovell Southwick,	$40 50	$500 00
July 7, 1875.	James McCormick,	34 60	350 00
June 14, 1876.	Isaac Desotelle,	10 66	250 00
July 1, 1876.	Alvin H. Brown,	20 00	500 00
Apr. 12, 1877.	Amos A. Humes,	18 55	350 00
June 19, 1878.	Philiman Mercier,	20 92	500 00
May 1, 1878.	J. & M. Rivers,	20 00	400 00
Aug 19, 1878.	R. M. Peters,	7 95	250 00
Apr. 20, 1878.	Allen Buxton,	10 33	200 00
Jan. 23, 1879.	Louisa Jarvis,	62	100 00
" 8, 1879.	Mary E. Arnold,	93	50 00
May 27, 1879.	Mary Briggs,	9 10	200 00
June 25, 1879.	Amable Signett,	16 33	400 00
July 7, 1879.	Michael Roberts,	19 42	500 00
Oct. 10, 1879.	Jonas Batcheller,	7 00	300 00
Apr. 19, 1880.	Phebe E. Johnson,	37 24	333 00
" 22, 1880.	Phebe Young,	25 67	500 00
Dec. 13, 1880.	Dema A. Allen,	18 21	250 00
July 22, 1881.	Mary J. Willis,	18 17	500 00
Nov 4, 1881.	Charles H. Hilton,	3 87	200 00
Mar. 5, 1881.	S. H. Starr,	5 92	100 00
		$613 53	$12,368 00

Notes due the Town Mar. 1, 1882,	$12,368 00
Accrued interest on said notes,	613 53
Cash in hands of Agent,	606 85
Value of Devise,	$13,588 38
Showing a net gain for the year,	$475 61

All of which is respectfully submitted.

A. F. JONES, Agent.

ANNUAL REPORTS

OF THE

Treasurer and Librarian

OF THE

DOUGLAS FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY.

DORRIS T. REYNOLDS, TREASURER, IN ACCOUNT WITH THE TOWN OF DOUGLAS.

1881.					Dr.
June	20.	To received of C. W. Potter, Ex-Treasurer,	$27	33	
July	4.	Borrowed of William Abbott,	100	00	
Sept.	20.	To received of Mrs. A. L. Buffington, for fines,	6	00	
1882.					
Jan	28.	To received Town appropriation,	180	66	
Feb.	28.	" from Library Lecture Course,	78	50	
March	4.	To received for fines and catalogues of Librarian,	10	03—	$402 52

1881.		Cr.		
June	20.	Paid Mrs. A. L. Buffington, as Librarian,	$9	38
July	4.	" C. J. Batcheller, for 500 catalogues,	24	50
"	4.	" C. J. Batcheller, re-binding 43 vols. and expenses,	11	75
July	26.	" C. J. Batcheller, Library books,	44	42

Aug.	26.	Paid	A. F. Brown, for 2¾ days' work on shelves,	$5	50	
"	26.	"	A. F. Brown, for 5 lbs. of nails,		35	
"	26.	"	A. F. Brown, 108 ft. boards	3	24	
Sept.	20.	"	Mrs. A. L. Buffington, as Librarian,	9	38	
"	20.	"	Mrs. A. L. Buffington, for removing and replacing books,	1	00	
Nov.	10.	"	V. M. Aldrich, 1 stove,	4	00	
"	10.	"	" " 6 lbs. zinc,		90	
"	10.	"	" " 12 lbs. pipe,	2	40	
"	10.	"	" " 3 lbs. pipe,		90	
"	10.	"	" " 3 elbows,		75	
"	10.	"	" " 4 collars,		40	
"	10.	"	" " hanging lamp,	4	50	
"	10.	"	" " oil can,		65	
"	10.	"	" " oil,		25	
Dec.	15.	"	Mrs. A. L. Buffington, as Librarian,	9	38	
1882.						
Jan.	28.	"	William Abbott, note and interest,	103	40	
Feb.	28.	"	A. F. Brown, 3 chairs,	1	50	
"	28.	"	" " dust brush,		42	
"	28.	"	" " broom,		30	
"	28.	"	" " wood,	1	75	
Mar.	4.	"	Mrs. A. L. Buffington, as Librarian,	9	38	
"	4.	"	Mrs. A. L. Buffington, preparing books and catalogues,		75	
"	4.	"	C. J. Batcheller, for library books,	92	59—	$343 79
Mar.	4.	Cash in hands of Treasurer,				$58 73

DORRIS T. REYNOLDS, Treasurer.

REPORT OF LIBRARIAN.

Whole no. of books in Douglas Free Public Library,	807
" " issued from Mar. 23, 1881, to March 8, 1882,	4,379

Average number of books issued per week,		87+
Number of books added to Library during the year,		119
Amount of fines due from Mar. 23, 1881, to March 8, 1882,	$12 33	
Balance of fines due Mar. 1, 1881,	4 30	
Whole amount of fines due,		$16 63
Amount collected for fines,	11 68	
" received from sale of catalogues,	4 35	
Paid over to Treasurer,	$16 03	
Amount of fines collected,		11 68
Balance due March 8, 1882,		$4 95

MRS. A. L. BUFFINGTON, Librarian.

TOWN CLERK'S REPORT.

BIRTHS.

Number recorded in 1881.	-	-	77
" males,	-	42	
" females,	-	35—	77
" children of native parentage,	-	26	
" " foreign "	-	51—	77

MARRIAGES.

Number of marriages recorded,	-	-	32
Parties resident in Douglas,	-	41	
" " elsewhere,	-	23—	64
Average age of groom,	-	-	29½
" " brides,	-	-	25
Native born,	-	30	
Foreign "	-	34—	64

DEATHS.

Number males recorded,	-	29	
" females "	-	21—	50
Averge age,	-		27
Number of persons eighty and above,			3
" " between seventy and eighty,			2
" " " sixty and seventy,			5

DOGS LICENSED.

Males, 88 at $2 00,	-	$176 00	
Females, 8 at 5 00,	-	40 00—	$216 00

T. H. MEEK, Town Clerk.

WARRANT FOR TOWN MEETING.

WORCESTER, SS.

To either of the Constables of the Town of Douglas, in the County of Worcester, Greeting;

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts,

You are directed to notify the Inhabitants of the Town of Douglas, qualified to vote in elections and in Town affairs, to meet in the Town Hall, in said Douglas, on Monday, the twentieth day of March, 1882, at nine o'clock, in the forenoon; then and there to act on the following articles:

ART. 1. To choose a Moderator to preside at said meeting.

ART. 2. To choose all necessary Town Officers for the ensuing year.

ART. 3. To hear the reports of the several Town Officers, and act thereon.

ART. 4. To raise by tax. and appropriate, such sums of money as may be necessary for the support of the Poor, of Schools, the repairing of the Highways, Townways and Bridges, for the payment of debts and contingent expenses for the ensuing year.

ART. 5. To determine the manner of repairing the Highways, Townways and Bridges the ensuing year.

ART. 6. To see if the Town will give the several School Districts the privilege of choosing their own Prudential Committees.

ART. 7. To see if the Town will give the Prudential Committees of the several School Districts the privilege of selecting and contracting with their several school teachers.

ART. 8. To see if the Town will vote to instruct the Collector of Taxes for 1882 to collect interest on all taxes not paid at a specified time and to fix said time and rate of interest. Also to see if the Town will vote to allow interest on all taxes paid before said time, and fix the rate thereof.

ART. 9. To see if the Town will give the Collector of Taxes the same authority that the Town Treasurer has when Collector.

ART. 10. To determine the time when the Poll and other taxes shall be collected.

ART. 11. To see if the town will authorize the board of Assessors to ABATE all such taxes, as, in their judgment, may be expedient and such taxes as law and equity require to be abated.

ART. 12. To choose an Agent and three Appraisers on the Devise of Moses Wallis to the inhabitants of Douglas.

ART. 13. To see if the Town will accept the list of Jurors reported by the Selectmen.

ART. 14. To hear the report of any outstanding Committee and act thereon.

ART. 15. To hear the report of the Agent of the Moses Wallis Devise and act thereon.

ART. 16. To see if theTown will authorize itsTreasurer to borrow such sums of money as may be necessary for the year ensuing

ART. 17. To see what sums of money the Town will raise, by tax, for the support of the High School for the ensuing year.

ART. 18. To see what use the Town will make of the Dog Fund, (so called), the ensuing year.

ART. 19. To choose two Trustees of the Public Library for three years each, and one for two years to fill vacancy.

ART. 20. To see if the Town will vote to abolish theSchool Districts and, if so, to make such provisions in regard to District property as the law requires.

ART. 21. To choose three School Committeemen for three years, and one for two years to fill a vacancy.

ART. 22. To see if the Town will vote to make any change in the time of holding their Annual March Meeting.

ART. 23. Shall Licenses be granted for the sale of intoxicating liquors in this Town?

ART. 24. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Hundred and Fifty Dollars ($250.) for the use of the Fire Company, said Company agreeing to pay their own individual poll taxes.

ART. 25. To see if the Town will appropriate and expend any part of the License money, which may be received the current year, to improve the sidewalks in East Douglas village.

ART. 26. To see of what number the acting Superintending School Committee shall consist the current year.

ART. 27. To see what compensation the Superintending School Committee shall receive, including the ennmeration of the Scholars the coming year.

ART. 28. To see if the Town will allow our Schools to be interrupted, the current year, by any teachers' meetings.

ART. 29. To see if the Town will hereafter approve of the graduation of any of our High School scholars until they have fully completed the course of studies which has been laid down.

ART. 30. To see if the Town will, by its vote, or otherwise, ask the Legislature to extend to the women, who are citizens, the right to hold Town Offices, and to vote in Town affairs on the same terms as male citizens.

ART. 31. To see if the Town will take measures to repair the fence or poles around the yard of Mrs. Holman's house.

ART. 32. To see if the Town will refund to Syrus Logee any part of the amount of tax paid by him in 1880.

ATT. 33. To see if the Town will vote to give Elbridge G. Wallis, the privilege of working out his tax on the road, leading from the main road, running by his house, to the Perry place,

ART. 34. To see if the Town will vote that the Superintendent of Schools, for the past year, shall make reparation to the Town for the time of which he has defrauded the scholars in calling the teachers to his monthly meetings.

ART. 35. To see if the Town will take measures to repair the barn at the Almshouse establishment.

ART. 36. To see if the Town will vote to have three Road Commissioners to repair the Highways, Townways and Bridges the ensuing year, or make any change in the manner of doing the same.

ART. 37. To see if the Town will authorize the Board of Selectmen to hire, or buy, a Stone Crusher, for the use of the Town, in repairing the Highways.

ART. 38. To see if the Town will make a special appropriation for repairing the Depot Road.

ART. 39. To see if the Town will give any directions to the Selectmen in relation to the Bonds to be filed by the Treasurer, Collector, and Agent on the Moses Wallis Devise.

And you are directed to serve this Warrant by posting up attested copies thereof, at the Post Office in East Douglas, at the Meeting House at Douglas Center, and at the Tavern House of William Jepherson, so called, in South Douglas, ten days, at least, before the time for holding said meeting.

Hereof fail not, and make due return of this Warrant with your doings thereon, to the Town Clerk, at the time and place of meeting aforesaid.

Given under our hands, this seventh day of March, in the year one thousand eight hundred and eighty-two.

(Signed),

W. H. LORING, } Selectmen
W. D. JONES, } of
SUEL LOGEE, } Douglas.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

School Committee

OF THE

Town of Douglas,

FOR YEAR ENDING

MARCH 1, 1882.

PRESS OF
CHARLES J. BATCHELLER,
EAST DOUGLAS, MASS.
1882.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

1881-2.

A. M. HILL,	Term	expires	March	1882
A. F. BROWN,	"	"	"	1882
JAMES W. SMITH,	"	"	"	1882
LEVI WHITE, M. D.,	"	"	"	1883
EDWIN C. ESTEN,	"	"	"	1883
WILLIAM H. TAFT,	"	"	"	1884
WILLIAM D. JONES,	"	"	"	1884
G. B. SOUTHWICK,	"	"	"	1884

At the Annual Meeting of the Committee, for the school year, the following officers were chosen :

W. D. JONES, - - Chairman and Secretary
A. F. BROWN, (with a salary fixed at $150.) Superintendent

W. D. JONES,
WM. H. TAFT, } Sub Committee.
LEVI WHITE,

[To consult and advise with Superintendent.]

JAMES W. SMITH,
EDWIN C. ESTEN, } Truant Officers.

STATISTICS.

Whole number of children in town May 1, 1881, between the ages of 5 and 15 years,		430
Whole number attending school of all ages, as appears by the enrollment sheet,		372
Average daily attendance in all the schools,		221 9/12
Whole number attending school under 5 yrs. of age,		15
" " " " over 15 " "		32
" " " " between the ages of 8 and 14 years,		209
Aggregate of months all the schools have been kept during the year, (including High School),		98¼
Average number of months the schools have been kept during the year, (including High School),		8.18+
Number of male teachers in district schools,		1
" female " " "		16
Average wages paid male teachers in district schools per month,		$36.00
Average wages paid female teachers in district schools, per month,		$32.19
Town appropriation for district schools, March, 1881,	$3,000 00	
Balance unexpended last year,	719 64	
State School Fund,	191 90	
Town School Fund, (interest,)	56 48	
Total,		$3,968 02

EXPENSE OF DISTRICT SCHOOLS.

Paid teachers' wages, with approval of Committee,	$2,875 75
fuel, care of rooms, crayon, etc.,	284 21

erasers and express,	6 15	
Total expenses,		$3,166 11
Balance unexpended March 1882,		$801 91

HIGH SCHOOL.

Town appropriation for High School, March 1881,	1,100 00	
Balance unexpended last year,	114 69	
Total,		$1,214 69
Paid teacher's salary,	$900 00	
rent of school room,	100 00	
fuel and care of room,	45 93	
use of Thayer's Hall, for graduation,	10 00	
printing for High school,	15 75	
books,	3 57	
Total,		$1,075 25
Balance unexpended March, 1882,		$139 44

	SPRING	FALL.	WINTER.
Length of school in weeks,	12	12	12
Whole number of scholars,	31	26	24
Average attendance,	28.89+	22.24+	22.81+
No. sch. over 15 yrs. of age,	17	18	20
" between 8 and 14 yrs.,	5	2	1
" not tardy,	28	21	15
" neither absent nor tardy	13	11	15

NAMES OF GRADUATES, '82.

CLASS MOTTO—"THERE SHALL BE NO ALPS." COLOR—RED.

CLASSICAL COURSE.

Hattie G. Abbott. Mollie E. Simmons. May F. Kimball.

GENERAL COURSE.

Walter E. Heath. Arthur C. Hunt. Frank A. Richardson.
Ida M. Johnson. Nellie E. Hunt. Effie E. Morse.
Gertie Lamson. Dora S. Russell.

ROLL OF HONOR.

NAMES OF THOSE SCHOLARS ENTITLED TO CERTIFICATES OF EXCELLENCE.

SPRING TERM:

Effie E. Morse.	May F. Kimball.	Gertie Lamson.
Hattie G. Abbott.	Ida M. Johnson.	Bertie Marsh.
Minnie Walker.	Emma Willis.	Arthur Hunt.
Walter Heath.	Willie Meek.	Vesley Newcomb.
	James Simmons.	(13)

FALL TERM.

Walter Heath.	Willie Meek.	James Simmons.
Hattie G. Abbott.	Ida M. Johnson.	May F. Kimball.
Nellie Manning.	Effie E. Morse.	Dora S. Russell.
Mollie E. Simmons.	Minnie Walker.	(11)

WINTER TERM.

Arthur Hunt.	Walter E. Heath.	Willie H. Meek.
James Simmons.	Hattie G. Abbott.	Ida M. Johnson.
May F. Kimball.	Kate Kelley.	Effie E. Morse.
Dora S. Russell.	Mollie E. Simmons.	Minnie Walker.
	Gertie Lamson.	(13)

NEITHER ABSENT NOR TARDY FOR THE YEAR.

Walter E. Heath.	Willie Meek.	James Simmons.
Effie E. Morse.	Minnie Walker.	Hattie G. Abbott.
Ida M. Johnson.	May F. Kimball.	(8)

NEITHER ABSENT NOR TARDY FOR TWO YEARS.

Walter E. Heath.	Willie Meek.	Hattie G. Abbott.
Ida M. Johnson.	May F. Kimball.	Effie E. Morse.
		(6)

NEITHER ABSENT NOR TARDY FOR THREE YEARS.

Walter E. Heath.	Ida M. Johnson.	Hattie G. Abbott.
May F. Kimball.	Effie E. Morse.	(5)

Spring Term, - - -	7 tardy marks
Fall " - -	9 " "
Winter " - - -	15 " "
Total tardy marks for the year, - -	31

Teacher,—Ralph H. Bowles, Jr.

DISTRICT SCHOOLS.

DISTRICT NO. 1.

Teacher's wages, - - -	$297 00
Wood, crayon and care of room, -	19 81
Total cost, - - -	$316 81

	SPRING.	FALL.	WINTER.
Whole number of scholars,	27	33	30
Average attendance,	18+	24+	17+
No. scholars under 5 yrs. of age,	0	0	0
" over 15 " "	1	1	5
" between 8 and 14 yrs	17	23	21
" not tardy,	13	30	22

Teacher,—Edward F. Sibley.

Prudential Committee, John Hilton.

DISTRICT NO. 2.

Teacher's wages, - - -	$231 00
Wood, care of room and crayon, -	22 53
Total cost, - - -	$253 53

	SPRING.	FALL.	WINTER.
Whole number of scholars,	15	13	13
Average attendance,	12+	10+	9+
No. scholars under 5 yrs. of age,	2	1	1
" over 15 " "	0	0	0

No. scholars between 8 and 14 yrs,	5	5	5
" not tardy,	6	5	3

Teacher,—Mary F. Jones.

No Prudential Committee.

DISTRICT NO. 3.

Teacher's wages, Primary, - -	$264 00
" " Intermediate, -	297 00
Wood, care of room and crayon, - -	55 67
Total cost, - - -	$616 67

PRIMARY DEPARTMENT.

	SPRING.	FALL.	WINTER.
Whole number of scholars,	37	41	35
Average attendance,	32+	31	29
No. scholars under 5 yrs. of age,	2	0	0
" over 15 " "	0	0	0
" between 8 and 14 yrs,	16	20	19
" not tardy,	23	25	21

Teacher,—Edna F. Caouette.

INTERMEDIATE DEPARTMENT.

	SPRING.	FALL.	WINTER.
Whole number of scholars,	30	28	27
Average attendance,	23+	21	22
No. scholars under 5 yrs. of age,	0	0	0
" over 15 " "	2	0	1
" between 8 and 14 yrs.	28	28	26
" not tardy,	14	21	19

Teachers,— { Miss Taft, Spring Term, one week.
Esther S. Childs, Spring Term.
Kate L. Simmons, Fall and Winter Terms.

Prudential Committee, Frank D. Whipple.

DISTRICT NO. 4.

Teacher's wages, - - -	$239 25
Wood, care of room and crayon, -	16 19
Total cost, - - -	$255 44

	SPRING.	FALL.	WINTER.
Whole number of scholars,	15	14	14
Average attendance,	12+	12+	12+
No. scholars under 5 yrs. of age,	0	0	0
" over 15 " "	1	0	2
" between 8 and 14 yrs.	8	8	5
" not tardy,	7	4	11

Teachers,— { E. Josie Manahan, Spring and Fall Terms.
Mrs. Abbie M. Lapham, Winter Term.

Prudential Committee, Edwin C. Esten.

DISTRICT NO. 7.

Teacher's wages, 27 weeks, - -	$189 00
Wood, care of room, &c., -	11 53
Total cost, - - -	$200 53

	SPRING.	FALL.	WINTER.
Whole number of scholars,	13	18	16
Average attendance,	9+	12+	13+
No. scholars under 5 yrs. of age,	1	3	1
" over 15 " "	1	1	1
" between 8 and 14 yrs.,	7	8	9
" not tardy,	4	7	10

Teachers,— { Hattie A. Parker, Spring Term. [Term.
Abbie L. Potter, Fall, and 5 weeks of Winter

Prudential Committee, Charles W. Potter.

DISTRICT NO. 8.

Teacher's wages, - - -	$231 00

Wood, care of room &c., - -	15 56
Total cost, - -	$246 36

	SPRING.	FALL.	WINTER.
Whole number of scholars,	15	14	13
Average attendance,	12+	12+	9+
No. scholars under 5 yrs. of age,	1	1	1
" over 15 " "	0	0	0
" between 8 and 14 yrs.	10	9	10
" not tardy,	12	8	9

Teacher,—Ella M. Keith.

Prudential Committee, Elijah B. Paine.

DISTRICT NO. 9.

Teacher's wages, Primary, - -	$264 00
" " Intermediate, -	319 00
Fuel, care of room, crayon, ink &c., -	66 16
Total cost, - - -	$649 16

PRIMARY DEPARTMENT.

	SPRING.	FALL.	WINTER.
Whole number of scholars,	58	52	41
Average attendance,	40	39+	29+
No. scholars under 5 yrs. of age,	2	0	0
" over 15 " "	0	0	0
" between 8 and 14 yrs,	25	23	21
" not tardy,	32	33	22

Teachers,— { Ethel M. Simmons, Spring Term.
M. Josie Loring, Fall and Winter Terms.

INTERMEDIATE DEPARTMENT.

	SPRING.	FALL.	WINTER
Whole number of scholars,	35	40	41
Average attendance,	30	38+	34+
No. scholars under 5 yrs. of age,	0	0	0

No. scholars over 15 yrs. of age,	2	3	3
" between 8 and 14 yrs.,	32	37	38
" not tardy,	27	37	35

Teacher,—Emma F. Bates.

Prudential Committee, Stillman Russell.

DISTRICT NO. 10.

Teacher's wages, Primary, - -	$264 00
" " Intermediate, -	280 50
Wood, crayon and care of room, - -	76 96
Total cost, - - -	$621 46

PRIMARY DEPARTMENT.

	SPRING.	FALL.	WINTER
Whole number of Scholars,	38	51	41
Average attendance,	32+	41	31 +
No. scholars under 5 yrs. of age,	3	5	4
" over 15 " "	0	0	0
" between 8 and 14 yrs.,	7	13	10
" not tardy,	33	47	32

Teacher,—Hattie A. Brown.

INTERMEDIATE DEPARTMENT.

	SPRING.	FALL.	WINTER.
Whole number of scholars,	31	32	30
Average attendance,	32+	24+	22+
No. scholars under 5 yrs. of age,	0	0	0
" over 15 " "	0	1	0
" between 8 and 14 yrs.	27	29	28
" not tardy,	27	21	16

Teachers, { Kate R. Sibley, Spring Term.
Nettie E. Stone, Fall and Winter Terms.

Prudential Committee, Alvin H. Brown.

GENERAL REMARKS.

There has been no school in Districts No. 5 or 6, during the year, for want of scholars. Two scholars in District No. 5 attended school in No. 4, and were very well accommodated by so doing.

One of the Truant Officers has been called upon several times, by the teachers, to look after truants, and has faithfully performed his duty, a report of which is herewith submitted.

To the Superintendent of Schools was committed the entire supervision of the schools for the year, which included the approbation and dismissal of teachers, examinations for admission to the High School, and all matters of discipline; and, at his suggestion, an Advisory Sub-Committee of three was chosen, with whom he was at liberty to advise in regard to any matters affecting the interest of the schools that might arise during the year. For a more detailed account of the state and condition of the Schools, for the year, see the report of the Superintendent, herewith submitted.

(Signed)

A. F. BROWN,
LEVI WHITE,
A. M. HILL,
WM. H. TAFT,
JAS. W. SMITH,
} School Committee of Douglas.

Douglas, March, 1882.

Report of One of the Truant Officers.

To The School Committee of Douglas,

Gentlemen :—

I have been called upon *twelve* different times, by the Superintendent, or some of the teachers in the village schools, between June 1, 1881 and Jan. 19, 1882, to look after truants and absentees from school.

To each of these calls I have responded and have not only returned the truants to their schools but have also seen their parents or guardians and have used my best endeavors to have them look after the welfare of their children. No complaint has been made to the court, although, in some instances, I think it would have been justifiable.

JAMES W. SMITH, Truant Officer,

Douglas, March 1882.

REPORT OF
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

To The School Committee of Douglas,

Gentlemen :—

Having received, by your appointment, the office of Superintendent of Schools for the current year, it is proper that I should make to you, and, through you, to the town, a report, in detail, of the work that has been performed and the progress, —if any—that has been made in our several schools.

I entered upon the discharge of my duties with a clear conviction of the responsibilities of the position and a full determination to do my duty fearlessly, regardless of fear or favor, subject always to the direction of the Committee if they saw fit to direct me. There has been no instance in which the Committee have seen fit to question the correctness of the course I have pursued.

It has been the custom, for many years, for our teachers to take one day, at least, in each term to visit other schools. Instead of this, a series of "Teachers' Meetings" was instituted, for the Fall and Winter terms, occupying one half day in each month, at which all our teachers were expected to be present and were required to take an active part. These meetings were modelled after the pattern of a Normal Institute, with class drill and class exercises, essays and discussions on the best methods of teaching the various branches taught in our schools. Our teachers, with one or two exceptions, entered enthusiastically into the plan, as suggested by the Superintendent, and contributed much by their influence and ability to make the meetings a perfect success. The exceptions were those who, either from a consciousness of their own inability, or from the antiquated notions received from their fathers, *seemed to assume* that *no* progress could be made from the *"days of long ago."*

It has been the design from the first to make the work of

this school year a progressive one, that our teachers should be required to do more and better work then had been done heretofore, and that, so far as they were qualified to do so, they should adopt and carry out the modern and most approved methods of teaching. This design has been heartily seconded and adopted by most of our teachers. The benficial results are seen in most excellent specimens of Freehand Drawing, the unprecedented advancement made in the classes that were given lessons in Language, Englisn Grammar, Geography and Phonetic Spelling. Writing the spelling exercises upon the blackboard has been practised in all our schools, with excellent results. The ease, rapidity and correctness with which the children in some of our Primary Schools will put the Spelling exercises on the black board, put to shame some scholars of a much larger growth.

While we have been desirous that our school children should make the greatest possible literary advancement, consistent with a due regard to health and their mental capacity, we have not been unmindful of the principles of morality, virtue and temperance, those higher qualities that have such an influence in making good citizens in any community. During the Winter Term more than two-thirds of the scholars,—with the consent and approbation of their parents,—signed the Temperance Pledge. I am glad to know that however abandoned to vice and intemperance, some men may be, there are *very few* who are not desirous that their children shall grow up to be virtuous and temperate citizens.

THE LAW PROVIDES, THAT

"The several school teachers shall faithfully keep the Register furnished them, and make due *return* thereof to the School Committee, *or such person as they may designate, and no teacher shall be entitled to receive payment for services, until the Register, properly filled up and completed, shall be so returned.*"
"Neither the School Committee nor the Town have power to dispense with the proper keeping of the School Register *or to waive the performance of the duty imposed by law on the teacher.*"

[Chief Justice Bigelow, 2, Allen 593.]

"The duty imposed by law," in the above decision is "The several school teachers shall faithfully keep the Register furnished them and make due return *thereof* to the School Committee, *or such person as they may designate.*" In the town of Douglas, for the current year, the Superintendent is the person designated, by vote of the School Committee, to see, among other duties, that the Registers are properly kept, and he is the *only* person designated to whom the Register shall be returned.

Neither the Town, nor the Selectmen, nor anybody else, have any right to waive the provisions of that law.

The School Committee, at a meeting called for that purpose, if they were dissatisfied with the doings of the Superintendent, might, undoubtedly, revoke his decisions or appoint some other person to perform that duty, but until such revocation the decision of the Superintendent is as binding on the Town, and on the Selectmen as though it was backed by every member of the School Committee. The following is a copy of a letter handed to the Selectmen on the day it bears date:

East Douglas, Mass., Jan. 28, 1882.

SELECTMEN OF DOUGLAS,—GENTLEMEN:—

The school in District No. 7, not answering the requirements of the law, I notified the teacher, Miss Abbie Potter, and the Prudential Committee,—Mr. C. W. Potter,—that I should not approve of the school after Jan. 6, 1882, and ordered the school closed on that day, and requested the teacher to make up the Register to that day and return it to me; which request has not yet been complied with. You are hereby forbidden to pay Miss Abbie Potter, as teacher of school Dist. No. 7, after Jan. 6, 1882, and are requested not to pay her anything until her Register is properly made out and returned, according to law.

A. F. BROWN, Supt. of Schools of Douglas.

Yet notwithstanding this notice to the Selectmen, and, notwithstanding that their attention was called to the fact that the Register had *not* been returned, and in direct violation of law and the decision of the Supreme Court, to which their attention was called at the time, the Selectmen did give an order, on the Treasurer, to pay her for the full time, including the six weeks, which the school kept with an average of less than five scholars, after it was ordered stopped by the Superintendent. Two or three days *after* the order was given by the Selectmen to pay the teacher the Register came to me, by mail, with more mistakes and ommissions than there was in all the other Registers in town put together.

I think the time has come when a majority of the intelligent citizens of Douglas, and a majority of our Town Officers also, ought no longer to be under the influence and control of unprincipled and designing men. The old

DISTRICT SYSTEM

has been the fruitful source of more evil to the welfare of our schools than all other things combined. Prudential Committees often persist in hiring incompetent and inefficient teachers, and if the Town's Committee attempt to interfere, there is a conflict

of authority that is frequently so unpleasant that Town's Committees sometimes submit and let an incompetent teacher finish the term of school, rather than face the anathemas of certain unprincipled and selfish Prudential Committees. Most of the

SCHOOL HOUSES

out of the village are in a dilapidated condition and very much need repair. I understand that since the boys, in Dist. No. 7, during the Winter Term, have so nearly riddled the inside of their school-house, the voters, in the district, have decided to make some repairs.

THE HIGH SCHOOL,

under the efficient instruction of R. H. Bowles, Jr., the successful teacher of our High School for the last *five years,* has lost none of its former interest. The successful completion of the last year's work compares favorably with the work of any previous year. The parents of the Graduating Class have reason to feel proud of the good work accomplished by their children, and the whole community owe Mr. Bowles a debt of gratitude for the faithful services he has performed in our High School.

DISTRICT SCHOOLS.

DISTRICT NO. 1.

The school in Dist. No. 1, with Mr. Edward F. Sibley for teacher, has been moderately successful, but not quite up to the standard. There seems to have been an under current, originating, perhaps, out of the school room, that has proved detrimental to the welfare of the school, causing a want of interest, and irregularity of attendance that should be remedied hereafter.

DISTRICT NO. 2.

Miss Mary F. Jones, teacher, was hired by the Superintendent, the district having lost their organization. Miss Jones is an experienced and successful teacher. The school is small, and the house, very large,—entirely out of proportion for the number of scholars in the district.

DISTRICT NO. 3.

Miss Edna F. Caouette, teacher of the Primary Department has entered most heartily into the modern and most progressive methods of teaching and has made her year's work a perfect success.

The Intermediate Department was commenced in the Spring term by Miss Taft of Blackstone, who, after one week, left the school. The remainder of the term, the school was taught by Miss Esther S. Childs, an experienced and successful teacher, who soon brought order out of confusion, and made it for the term one of the best regulated schools in town. The Fall and Winter terms were taught by Miss Kate Simmons, a Normal Graduate. This was her first experience in teaching, yet she successfully overcame the obstacles that, at first, confronted her and closed the Winter Term with marked success.

DISTRICT NO. 4.

The Spring and Fall Terms taught by Miss E. Josie Manahan, were fairly successful. The Winter term, taught by Mrs. Abbie M. Lapham, was one of the best schools ever taught in that district. Specimens of Freehand drawing, Reading and Declamation are worthy of special mention.

DISTRICT NO. 7.

The Spring Term was successfully taught by Miss Hattie A. Parker, of Sutton, an experienced teacher and one who maintained a good reputation in her school, and gave entire satisfaction.

The Fall Term *and five weeks of the Winter Term, only,* under the sanction of the School Committee, was taught by Miss Abbie L. Potter. The school was not a success, and, at the close of the Fall term, by request of the Superintendent, the Prudential Committee agreed to procure another teacher for the Winter term ; instead of which the *same* teacher was continued, with the assurance that he had been *talking* to the teacher in regard to her order, and that he should use his influence to have good order maintained.

After continuing the school for four weeks, and finding that there was *no improvement,* but a perfect disregard of the rules of good order and decency, and, after consulting with a majority of the Sub-Committee in regard to the want of discipline in

the school, and, having their hearty co-operation and approval, I ordered the school to be closed at the end of the *fifth* week.

The school was *not* ordered closed by the Superintendent,—as has been *falsely* stated,—because the teacher did not attend the Teachers' Meetings. I think she attended every meeting up to that time save one, and, for her absence at that meeting, she rendered a reasonable and satisfactory excuse.

DISTRICT NO. 8.

This was taught by Miss Ella M. Keith, one of our experienced and most successful teachers. The order was perfect and the progress made by some of the scholars is worthy of special mention.

DISTRICT NO. 9.

The Spring term of the Primary Department was taught by Miss Ethel M. Simmons. The school was large and this was her first experience in teaching. I have no doubt she would succeed better in a smaller school. The Fall and Winter terms were taught by Miss M. Josie Loring, who is one of our experienced and most successful teachers.

The Intermediate Department, under the instruction of Miss Emma F. Bates was second to no school in town. The town would be a gainer, if by paying such teachers a more liberal price, they could, thereby, retain them among our corps of teachers.

DISTRICT NO. 10.

The Primary department was taught by Miss Hattie A. Brown, a Normal Graduate. It is enough to say of this school, that, in every respect, it was a *model* school.

The Spring term of the Intermediate department was taught by Miss Kate R. Sibley, an experienced and successful teacher, who left at the close of the term, for a more lucrative position. The Fall and Winter terms were taught by Miss Nettie E. Stone, of Northbridge, a Normal Graduate. Although this was her first experience in teaching she made the school a complete success and will rank among our best schools.

The practice heretofore existing of paying the same price to teachers of certain schools, regardless of their qualifications, or the amount of work they are able to accomplish, ought to be

discarded. Our teachers should be paid as we pay other skilled workmen,—in proportion to their ability and success. Let new or inexperienced teachers commence on a low salary and, if they prove themselves worthy, let their salary be advanced in proportion to their worth, and if not worthy, let them be dismissed.

Another *antiquated notion,* that has, heretofore, prevailed to some extent, in town, is that any young or inexperienced teacher will do well enough for a Primary school teacher, instead of which we need our *very best* teachers in our Primary schools. I know of no reason why a successful Primary teacher should not be paid as much for her services as a successful Intermediate teacher.

A. F. BROWN, Supt. of Schools.

Douglas, March, 1882.